

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant has reviewed and considered the Office Action dated September 9, 2006 and the cited references therein. In response thereto, claims 1-2, 4, 6-8, 15, 19, and 22 are amended; claims 5, 9-14, 18, and 21 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; and new claims 24-26 are added. As a result, claims 1-4, 6-8, 15-17, 19-20, and 23-26 are pending.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. ¶ 112

Claims 2, 4-5-7, 8-9, 12, 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 2, 4-5-7, 8-9, 12, 21 are amended to overcome the rejections.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. ¶ 102 & 103

Claims 1-2, 6-7 and 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. ¶ 102(e) as being anticipated by Zweighaft et al. Claims 15, 19, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. ¶ 102(e) as being anticipated by Dugas. Claims 3-5, 8-9, 16-18, 20-21 and 23 are deemed to contain allowable subject matters.

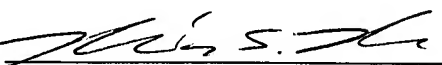
The claims are amended and/or canceled to include allowable features, without prejudice or disclaims to expedite the prosecution process. This application now stands in allowable form and reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues, please contact the undersigned at 612-752-7367.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Jan. 9, 2006

By: 
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